Torrey Westrom
State Representative

District 11A
Douglas, Grant and Stevens Counties

Minnesota House of Representatives

July 26, 2011

COMMITTEES: ~~ENERGY FINANCE AND POLICY DIVISION~~
WAYS AND MEANS
CIVIL JUSTICE
RULES AND LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to ask the Commission's help to bring forth more technological options for reliable broadband Internet and cell phone coverage in rural communities.

My legislative district, which is located in western Minnesota, almost to North Dakota and South Dakota, would be well served by such a network. The district includes all or parts of Douglas, Grant and Stevens Counties. Its two largest cities are Alexandria (8,600 people) and Morris (5,600 people). The rest of the district lives in small towns of less than 1,200 people, or on one of the many farms in my district.

Parts of my district lacks good telecommunications services, which is a problem for law enforcement, EMS crews and others that must respond swiftly to emergency situations. It limits the types of employers that can start and grow in rural communities along with less internet or cell phone options for residence whom choose to live in these communities. As recent as last Friday, July 22, I this concern was again brought to my attention at the Grant County Fair. Leaders from the community of Herman, MN, stopped and talked to me about their poor internet service and how it was negatively impacting a local implement dealer, insurance company and other businesses. This is a big barrier to economic growth and job creation in rural communities already struggling to entice and maintain employers.

I understand that the Commission is currently reviewing an application by LightSquared to establish a nationwide satellite network that will address this lack of access. This is good news for my district, since the small rural communities I represent are lagging behind urban centers in technology jobs and good cell coverage.

I also understand that LightSquared has offered to voluntarily restrict the spectrum it will be broadcasting in to minimize possible interference with GPS devices that are receiving signals outside their authorized area. This is expected to address 99.95% of any interference issues

P.O. Box 210, Elbow Lake, Minnesota 56531 (218) 685-6266
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FAX: (651) 296-4307 Email: rep.torrey.westrom@house.mn

caused by GPS receivers that are "squatting" in LightSquared's spectrum. I appreciate this sacrifice by LightSquared and encourage the Commission to move without delay to approve policies that will expand rural access to needed telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

Rep. Torrey Westrom
651-296-4929
Rep.torrey.westrom@house.mn

11-109

DONOVAN Surveyors

Office of John Donovan
19 Hillcrest Road ♦ Stratford, New Jersey 08084
Tel: (856) 627-3550 ♦ **Fax:** (856) 627-0330
DonovanSurveyors@comcast.net

July 22, 2011

Mr. Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

As a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in New Jersey, I must express serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granting LightSquared, LLC conditional approval to build a nationwide 4G-LTE wireless broadband network (FCC File No. SAT-MOD-20101118-00239). Early testing by GPS technology leaders, Garmin and Trimble Navigation, demonstrated that LightSquared's technology would likely interfere with Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, degrading their performance in the best case scenario and completely jamming GPS receivers in the worst case scenario.

The Department of Defense, FAA, DHS, NASA, DOI, DOT, DOC, and the Professional Land Surveying and Engineering professions, have all expressed serious reservations in regards to this plan by LightSquared, LLC to build 40,000 ground stations in the U.S. that could cause widespread interference to GPS signals. This network of ground stations will transmit signals within the L-band frequency immediately adjacent to the GPS L1 frequency at more than one billion times the strength of the low-power GPS signal from space. Furthermore, each mobile phone using LightSquared's wireless service would potentially become a portable GPS jamming device by jamming GPS receivers in its immediate vicinity.

High-precision GPS equipment used by Land Surveyors and other geomatics professionals costing thousands of dollars per receiver would be more adversely affected than the consumer GPS devices given their inherent design. Literally, tens of thousands of high-precision GPS receivers are used in the United States. GPS technology has transformed the way we build and manage our infrastructure, adding a tremendous level of efficiency to the design, construction, and maintenance of roads, bridges, commercial properties, residential subdivisions, parks, farms, golf courses, etc. GPS has become an essential tool for design professionals and it is imperative that these GPS signals are not jeopardized by broadband technology.

This situation has the potential of becoming a tremendous public safety issue and an economical disaster not only for New Jersey, but also for the United States as a whole. The members of the New Jersey Society of Professional Land Surveyors urge you to reject the LightSquared application until such time that all tests conclusively demonstrate there is no risk of interference.

Respectfully,

John Donovan PLS., PP
GS 30738

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11-109

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NJDEP PERMITS
BOUNDARY SURVEYS
TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEYS
CONSTRUCTION LAYOUT

Via Regular Mail &
Email

July 26, 2011

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Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
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Washington, DC 20554

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Mr. Seybold a noted wireless industry guru writes that LightSquared should not be permitted to move forward at all. On July 6, 2011, he published the following:

"Okay, I admit it. I don't believe LightSquared should be permitted to use what was supposed to be satellite spectrum for a terrestrial broadband network. Not only that, I don't believe LightSquared has a sound business plan. Building more than 40,000 cell sites, maintaining them, and reselling the bandwidth to others who want to sell it to its customers, does not pencil out in my book. The margins will be too slim, especially given the fact that prices for both voice and broadband services keep failing in the United States so margins will continue to be squeezed. But apart from a faulty business plan, the main reason I am opposed to LightSquared's plan to build this network is that if there is the slightest chance it will interfere with GPS receivers, it simply should not be permitted to be built."

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Summary Table. Estimated Annual Economic Costs of GPS Signal Disruption

	100% Degradation (in $ billions)	50% Degradation (in $ billions)
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Commercial GPS Users	$87.2	$43.6
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Other commercial GPS users	$28.2	$14.1
Investment losses in GPS equipment	$19.6	$ 9.8
GPS Manufacturers	$ 8.8	$ 4.7
Foregone GPS equipment sales	$ 8.3	$ 4.1
R&D spending	$ 0.5	$ 0.5
Opportunity costs of R&D spending	$ 0.1	$ 0.1
TOTAL	**$96.0**	**$48.3**
OTHER DIRECT & INDIRECT IMPACTS		
Emission reductions from fuel savings		
Health and safety gains in work place		
Worker time savings		
Public safety and emergency response times		
Employment in GPS-related industries and supporting industries		
Quality-of-life improvements from noncommercial (consumer) GPS products and services		
Military, national defense, and public safety		
Large tax base to fund federal and local government expenditures		

As can be seen this situation has the potential of becoming a tremendous public safety issue and an economical disaster not only for New Jersey, but also for the United States as a whole. The members of the New Jersey Society of Professional Land Surveyors urge you to reject the LightSquared application until such time that all tests conclusively demonstrate there is no risk of interference.

Sincerely,

Nicholas J. Wunner, PE, PLS

Cc: Senator Frank Lautenberg
Senator Robert Menendez
Congressman Rodney P. Frelinghuysen
NJSPLS

11-109

AUG - 1 2011
FCC Mail Room

Mr. Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

George Tawney P.L.S.

11-109

July 25, 2011

Mr. Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

As a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in The State of New Jersey, The State of Delaware and a professional license pending in The State of Pennsylvania I must express serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granting LightSquared, LLC conditional approval to build a nationwide 4G-LTE wireless broadband network (FCC File No. SAT-MOD-20101118-00239). Early testing by GPS technology leaders, Garmin and Trimble Navigation, demonstrated that LightSquared's technology would likely interfere with Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, degrading their performance in the best case scenario and completely jamming GPS receivers in the worst case scenario.

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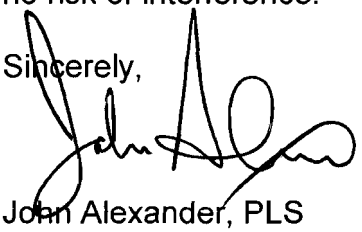
This situation has the potential of becoming a tremendous public safety issue and an economical disaster not only for New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania, but also for the United States as a whole. The members of the New Jersey Society of Professional Land Surveyors and the Delaware Association of Surveyors urge you to reject the LightSquared application until such time that all tests conclusively demonstrate there is no risk of interference.

Sincerely,



John Alexander, PLS

dc gohn Associates, Inc.

SURVEYORS—ENGINEERS—LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

July 26, 2011

Mr. Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

As a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in Pennsylvania, I must express serious concern regarding the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granting LightSquared, LLC conditional approval to build a nationwide 4G-LTE wireless broadband network (FCC File No. SAT-MOD-20101118-00239). Early testing by GPS technology leaders, Garmin and Trimble Navigation demonstrated that LightSquared's technology would likely interfere with Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, degrading their performance in the best case scenario and completely jamming GPS receivers in the worst case scenario.

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This situation has the potential of becoming a tremendous public safety issue and an economical disaster not only for Pennsylvania, but also for the United States as a whole. I urge you to reject the LightSquared application until such time that all tests conclusively demonstrate that there is not risk of interference.

Sincerely

D. C. Gohn Associates, Inc.

Eugene R. Oldham, PE, PLS
Vice President

32 Mount Joy St., P.O. Box 128
Mount Joy, PA 17552-0128

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Timothy A. Wilson
82 Wentwood Drive
Debary, FL 32713-3275

26 July 2011

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
U.S. Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington DC 20554

Subject: IB Docket Number 11-109. FCC File No. SAT-Mod-20101118-00239, LightSquared Subsidiary LLC (LightSquared) Request for Modification of its Authority for an Ancillary Terrestrial Component

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

My name is Timothy A. Wilson. I am chair of the Department of Electrical, Computer, Software, and Systems Engineering at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) in Daytona Beach, Florida. ERAU is recognized around the globe as the leader in aviation and aerospace education. Embry-Riddle was an early adopter of Automatic Dependent Surveillance – Broadcast (ADS-B), an aviation navigation technology based on the Global Positioning System (GPS). ERAU won the Collier Trophy in 2007 for our work in ADS-B development and testing. My department's faculty includes members widely respected for their expertise in avionics, particularly navigation electronics like GPS and ADS-B, and my colleagues and I perform research into unmanned systems, both developing technologies for use in Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and articulating issues associated with bringing UAS into everyday use in the National Airspace System (NAS).

I write as a member of both the avionics and the unmanned systems communities. I am deeply concerned about a current waiver request from LightSquared to operate high-powered terrestrial transmitters on a radio frequency adjacent to bandwidth used by the lower-powered satellite-based GPS. Independent studies show that LightSquared's terrestrial operations could completely knockout GPS receivers for miles around each transmitter. *More research and studies must be done* before the FCC grants LightSquared a waiver to build tens of thousands of such high-powered terrestrial transmitters and use bandwidth adjacent to GPS,

The NextGen NAS under construction uses GPS-determined positions rebroadcast to controllers and other aircraft via ADS-B. Around the world, unmanned systems—air, ground, and maritime—rely on accurate, dependable GPS information. The lack of reliable GPS signals poses a serious threat to our airspace system, public safety, and national defense, and retrofitting or replacing affected GPS receivers would be devastating to NextGen as well as an undue burden on existing GPS users. I ask that you carefully consider the potential harm LightSquared's proposed plan would have on the NextGen, on the emerging field of unmanned systems, and on all other GPS users.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments for the official record.

Sincerely,

Timothy A. Wilson, Sc.D., P.E.

WUNNER ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES, PA

ENGINEERS • LAND SURVEYORS • PLANNERS

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Via Regular Mail & Email

July 26, 2011

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Chairman
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Sincerely,

Lee Amerspek, PLS

Cc: Senator Frank Lautenberg
Senator Robert Menendez
Congressman Scott Garrett
NJSPLS

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Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

John J. Ruane, Jr. PLS

ROBERT H. THOMAS, SR.
PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR
2429 E. MAIN STREET - MILLVILLE, NJ 08332

July 25, 2011

Mr. Julius Genachowski, Chairman

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street SW

Washington, DC 20554

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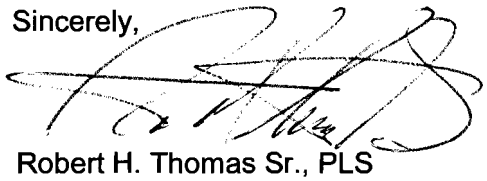

Robert H. Thomas Sr., PLS

Mr. Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

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As a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in Maryland, I must express serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granting LightSquared, LLC conditional approval to build a nationwide 4G-LTE wireless broadband network (FCC File No. SAT-MOD-20101118-00239). Early testing by GPS technology leaders, Garmin and Trimble Navigation, demonstrated that LightSquared's technology would likely interfere with Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, degrading their performance in the best case scenario and completely jamming GPS receivers in the worst case scenario.

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High-precision GPS equipment used by Land Surveyors and other geomatics professionals costing thousands of dollars per receiver would be more adversely affected than the consumer GPS devices given their inherent design. Literally, tens of thousands of high-precision GPS receivers are used in the United States. GPS technology has transformed the way we build and manage our infrastructure, adding a tremendous level of efficiency to the design, construction, and maintenance of roads, bridges, commercial properties, residential subdivisions, parks, farms, golf courses, etc. GPS has become an essential tool for design professionals and it is imperative that these GPS signals are not jeopardized by broadband technology.

This situation has the potential of becoming a tremendous public safety issue and an economical disaster not only for Maryland, but also for the United States as a whole. The members of the Maryland Society of Surveyors urge you to reject the LightSquared application until such time that all tests conclusively demonstrate there is no risk of interference.

Sincerely, Jefferson O. Lawrence Prof. Land Surveyor #5216 md

Jefferson O Lawrence

July 19, 2011

Mr. Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: FCC File No. SAT-MOD-20101118-00239 (LightSquared)

Dear Chairman Genachowski;

As a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in the State of Maryland, I must express serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granting LightSquared, LLC conditional approval to build a nationwide 4G-LTE wireless broadband network (FCC File No. SAT-MOD-20101118-00239). Early testing by GPS technology leaders, Garmin and Trimble Navigation, demonstrated that LightSquared's technology would likely interfere with Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, degrading their performance in the best case scenario, and completely jamming GPS receivers in the worst case scenario.

The Department of Defense, FAA, DHS, NASA, DOI, DOT, DOC, and the Professional Land Surveying and Engineering professions, have all expressed serious reservations in regards to this plan by LightSquared, LLC to build 40,000 ground stations in the U.S. that could cause widespread interference to GPS signals. This network of ground stations will transmit signals within the L-band frequency immediately adjacent to the GPS L1 frequency at more than one billion times the strength of the low-power GPS signal from space. Furthermore, each mobile phone using LightSquared's wireless service would potentially become a portable GPS jamming device by jamming GPS receivers in its immediate vicinity.

High-precision GPS equipment used by Land Surveyors and other geomatics professionals costing thousands of dollars per receiver would be more adversely affected than the consumer GPS devices given their inherent design. Literally, tens of thousands of high-precision GPS receivers are used in the United States. GPS technology has transformed the way we build and manage our infrastructure, adding a tremendous level of efficiency to the design, construction, and maintenance of roads, bridges, commercial properties, residential subdivisions, parks, farms, golf courses, etc. GPS has become an essential tool for design professionals and it is imperative that these GPS signals are not jeopardized by broadband technology.

This situation has the potential of becoming a tremendous public safety issue and an economical disaster not only for Maryland, but also for the United States as a whole. The members of the Maryland Society of Surveyors urge you to reject the LightSquared application until such time that all tests conclusively demonstrate there is no risk of interference.

Sincerely,

Aaron E. Worley
Professional Land Surveyor
Maryland Registration No. 21539
5715 Joseph Court
New Market, MD 21774

July 19, 2011

Mr. Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

As a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in New Jersey, I must express serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granting LightSquared, LLC conditional approval to build a nationwide 4G-LTE wireless broadband network (FCC File No. SAT-MOD-20101118-00239). Early testing by GPS technology leaders, Garmin and Trimble Navigation, demonstrated that LightSquared's technology would likely interfere with Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, degrading their performance in the best case scenario and completely jamming GPS receivers in the worst case scenario.

The Department of Defense, FAA, DHS, NASA, DOI, DOT, DOC, and the Professional Land Surveying and Engineering professions, have all expressed serious reservations in regards to this plan by LightSquared, LLC to build 40,000 ground stations in the U.S. that could cause widespread interference to GPS signals. This network of ground stations will transmit signals within the L-band frequency immediately adjacent to the GPS L1 frequency at more than one billion times the strength of the low-power GPS signal from space. Furthermore, each mobile phone using LightSquared's wireless service would potentially become a portable GPS jamming device by jamming GPS receivers in its immediate vicinity.

High-precision GPS equipment used by Land Surveyors and other geomatics professionals costing thousands of dollars per receiver would be more adversely affected than the consumer GPS devices given their inherent design. Literally, tens of thousands of high-precision GPS receivers are used in the United States. GPS technology has transformed the way we build and manage our infrastructure, adding a tremendous level of efficiency to the design, construction, and maintenance of roads, bridges, commercial properties, residential subdivisions, parks, farms, golf courses, etc. GPS has become an essential tool for design professionals and it is imperative that these GPS signals are not jeopardized by broadband technology.

This situation has the potential of becoming a tremendous public safety issue and an economical disaster not only for New Jersey, but also for the United States as a whole. The members of the New Jersey Society of Professional Land Surveyors urge you to reject the LightSquared application until such time that all tests conclusively demonstrate there is no risk of interference.

Sincerely,

William E. Alburger, P.L.S., P.P.
108 Ivins Avenue
Merchantville, NJ 08109

City of Peoria

8401 West Monroe Street, Peoria, Arizona 85345

July 25, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Ms. Dortch:

With the increased use of smart phones, it has become quite clear that Peoria like the rest of America needs more broadband wireless capacity. Government, business and individuals depend on 24 hour a day, 7 day a week connections to broadband wireless. America needs to expand its broadband wireless infrastructure to be able to continue to complete in the global economy.

A company called LightSquared has agreed to help in expanding broadband wireless capacity by investing in a new 4G-LTE network. Unfortunately, the GPS industry has put a road block in LightSquared's path. GPS is very important, but the GPS industry must also understand the importance of expanding broadband wireless capacity across the nation.

Therefore, I'm writing today to ask that the Federal Communications Commission continue to work with LightSquared to find solutions to GPS's technical issues, so LightSquared can move forward with its plans to expand wireless capacity by building a new 4G-LTE network.

Sincerely,

Dave Pearson

Dave Pearson
City Council
Peoria, Arizona

David Dill
State Representative

District 6A
Cook, Lake and St. Louis Counties

Minnesota House of Representatives

COMMITTEES: LEGACY FUNDING DIVISION
ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY AND FINANCE
JOBS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to ask the Commission's help to bring reliable broadband Internet and cell phone coverage to my isolated legislative district.

My district is located in far northeastern Minnesota and includes parts or all of St. Louis, Lake and Cook Counties. This includes virtually all of the northern shore of Lake Superior from Duluth to the Canadian border nearly 200 miles away. It also includes Superior National Forest, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and many state forests and parks. My district lacks good telecommunications services, which is a problem for public safety staff, ambulance crews and others that must respond swiftly to emergency situations. It also limits the types of employers that can start and grow in rural communities. This is a big barrier to economic growth and job creation in communities already facing challenges growing their economy.

I understand that the Commission is currently reviewing an application by LightSquared to initiate a satellite network that will address this lack of access. This is good news, since the small communities in my district are lagging behind urban centers in technology jobs and good cell coverage.

I also understand that there have been questions raised about whether LightSquared's signals will interfere with GPS devices that are receiving signals outside their authorized area. Fortunately, LightSquared has agreed to restrict the portion of the spectrum in which it will broadcast its signal. This is expected to address 99.95% of the GPS problem. It is important to note that any interference issues caused by GPS receivers are caused by their "squatting" in LightSquared's spectrum. I encourage the Commission to move without delay to approve policies that will expand rural access to needed telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

David Dill

423 Bear Island, Crane Lake, Minnesota 55725
State Office Building, 100 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-1298
FAX: (651) 296-8605 Email: rep.david.dill@house.mn
(218) 993-2252
(651) 296-2190
(800) 339-0466

Bill G. Ingebrigtsen
Senator District 11
303 State Capitol Building
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606
(651) 297-8063
sen.bill.ingebrigtsen@senate.mn

Senate
State of Minnesota

July 19, 2011

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to ask the Commission's help to bring reliable broadband Internet and cell phone coverage to rural communities.

While I am currently a Minnesota State Senator, my professional career was spent in law enforcement. I retired as the Sheriff of Douglas County, a rural county located in northwestern Minnesota. During my tenure as Sheriff, I saw many instances where a lack of reliable cell phone coverage hindered EMS staff trying to get information about a patient's current medications, prevented stranded motorists in snow-bound drifts unable to contact a tow truck or law enforcement and limited law enforcement personnel from contacting family members.

Rural America needs better cell phone coverage. We also need more high-speed broadband wireless capacity. But no national carrier wants to make the investment in counties like mine where the lack of population makes erecting and maintaining a network cost prohibitive.

The good news to this problem is LightSquared's satellite network that will allow isolated communities to have access to 4-G cell phone and internet services. I encourage the Commission to move without delay to consider their application to initiate service. I understand that some are opposing LightSquared's application because they have created receivers that operate in LightSquared's authorized space and LightSquared's signals might interfere with these receivers. If that is the case, the manufacturers of these devices should fix them and not seek to restrict the benefits that LightSquared would bring to the telecommunications marketplace.

Sincerely,

Bill Ingebrigtsen

COMMITTEES: Chair-Environment & Natural Resources, Judiciary & Public Safety, Finance, Ethics
PROUDLY SERVING DISTRICT 11: Douglas, Grant, Stevens and Todd County

THOMAS W. SAXHAUG
State Senator District 3
135 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206

Senate
State of Minnesota

July 19, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing this letter in support of LightSquared's efforts to launch a nationwide broadband wireless network.

My legislative district borders Canada and includes thousands of square miles of state and federal lands. Cell phone coverage is available only in the isolated communities of my district and wireless broadband Internet is only a dream for many of my constituents. Existing cell phone companies have sought to build massive cell towers to serve parts of my district, but have been unsuccessful to this point.

LightSquared's satellite communications system will provide reliable cell phone and wireless broadband coverage throughout my district. This is good news to public safety and will help expand economic development opportunities in these rural communities.

If you have any other questions please feel free to contact my office.

Best Regards,

State Senator Tom Saxhaug
District 3

Andrew Falk
State Representative

District 20A
Big Stone, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln,
Swift and Yellow Medicine Counties

Minnesota House of Representatives

COMMITTEES: **VICE-CHAIR**, ENERGY FINANCE AND POLICY DIVISION
ENVIRONMENT POLICY AND OVERSIGHT
GAME, FISH AND FORESTRY DIVISION
AGRICULTURE, RURAL ECONOMIES AND VETERANS AFFAIRS FINANCE DIVISION

July 25, 2011

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to ask the Commission's help to bring reliable broadband Internet and cell phone coverage to rural communities.

I represent a large rural district in southwestern Minnesota that borders South Dakota. I represent all or parts of Big Stone, Swift, Lac Qui Parle, Lincoln and Yellow Medicine Counties. There are no urban areas in my district – just many small towns and farms. I cannot drive across my district and maintain cell phone coverage. There is also no consistent access to wireless broadband Internet, which means that high-tech companies that rely on Internet service are prevented from locating in my district.

I understand that the Commission is currently reviewing an application by LightSquared to turn on a nationwide satellite network that will address this lack of access. This is good news, since the small rural communities I represent are lagging behind urban centers in technology jobs and good cell coverage.

We cannot afford to lose the value LightSquared is offering our economy and society. I encourage the Commission to move without delay to support this and other proposals that will provide opportunity to rural communities.

Sincerely,

Andrew Falk

1170 Hwy. 9 N.E., Murdock, Minnesota 56271 (320) 444-5017
State Office Building, 100 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-1298 (651) 296-4228
FAX: (651) 296-7189 Email: rep.andrew.falk@house.mn (888) 682-1388